

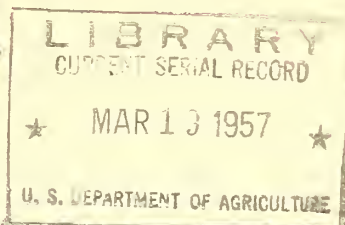
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Foreign

CROPS AND MARKETS



FOR RELEASE MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1957

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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RENEWED INDONESIAN-RUMANIAN
TRADE AGREEMENT INCLUDES TOBACCO

The Trade and Payments Agreement of July 31, 1954, between Indonesia and Rumania, was reportedly modified and extended for another year following the conclusion of negotiations held in Bucharest on November 27, 1956. In accordance with Indonesia's recently announced policy, the new agreement does not contain quotas but provides for payment in transferable pound sterling rather than by a clearing account. The agreement includes Indonesian tobacco as one of the items available for export in exchange for Rumanian goods. Indonesian trade statistics during the past few years do not show any leaf tobacco exports to Rumania.

N.E. RHODESIAN TOBACCO GROWERS
RECEIVE FERTILIZER TRANSPORTATION SUBSIDY

The Federal Government of Rhodesia and Nyasaland has reportedly extended assistance in the form of subsidizing transportation costs on fertilizers bought by growers of flue-cured, Burley and Turkish tobacco in the Eastern Province of Northern Rhodesia - Fort Jameson area. The subsidy will be at the rate of £5 (U.S. \$14) per short ton where the fertilizer is obtained via Salima and £10 per short ton where fertilizer is obtained via Lusaka. The subsidy is payable on approved fertilizers purchased by growers for the 1956-57 crop. The final filing date for this subsidy was February 15, 1957. The subsidy was approved for one season only and the decision of the Minister of Agriculture on any application will be final.

The Federal Government is also considering other methods of helping farmers in the Fort Jameson area. One method involves what is known as the "Hobday Scheme", which aims at lessening producers' dependence on tobacco by diversification into other lines of production, particularly meat products. It is proposed to construct a slaughter house at Fort Jameson and to organize a truck line using refrigerated vans to haul beef and pork from N. E. Rhodesia to the Lusaka market.

EGYPTIAN IMPORTS OF U.S.
LEAF RISE IN 1956

Egyptian imports of U.S. unmanufactured tobacco increased to nearly 7.9 million pounds in 1956, 23 percent larger than in 1955. Imports of U. S. leaf also increased in proportion to total imports, rising from 27 percent in 1955 to 31 percent in 1956. The rising demand for U. S. leaf reflects the growing demand for American-type cigarettes in the Egyptian market. Imports probably would have been larger except for the premium that must be paid to obtain dollars. This premium has now increased to about 25 percent.

Slackening demand for oriental tobacco is shown in the smaller imports from the traditional sources, Greece and Turkey. However, some of this may be due to larger imports of oriental from the Soviet Union and Bulgaria. Smaller leaf imports of flue-cured tobacco from the Rhodesias have been made up to some extent by larger imports from Communist China and India.

EGYPT: Imports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1956,
with comparisons

Country of Origin	1953	1954	1955	1956
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
United States.....	4,999	5,774	6,418	7,865
Turkey.....	5,949	5,315	5,329	4,309
Greece.....	3,081	2,872	3,082	2,878
India.....	2,172	2,086	2,215	2,772
Rhodesias <u>1/</u>	2/	624	3,052	2,272
Soviet Union.....	881	1,006	1,069	1,495
Communist China.....	904	1,046	1,138	1,480
Other.....	5,467	5,759	1,436	2,133
Total.....	23,453	24,482	23,739	25,204

1/ Southern Rhodesia until June 1954.

2/ If any, included in other.

PAKISTAN EXPECTS SLIGHTLY
SMALLER FLUE-CURED CROP IN 1957

Flue-cured production in Pakistan for 1957 is forecast at 11.5 million pounds from 12.5 thousand acres, down slightly in both acreage and production from 1956. This is the first reduction in acreage reported for several years as plantings have been increasing annually to supply the booming rise in cigarette output. Growers felt the slackening demand during 1956 when those in the Peshawar area, especially, received very unsatisfactory prices. This was primarily due to some manufacturers' inability to begin or increase cigarette production as planned earlier.

Cigarette production which jumped from a 1947-51 average of 1.5 billion pieces to 4.6 billion in 1954 began to level off and by 1956 had risen to only 4.8 billion. A modest increase to 5 billion is expected in 1957.

It has been reported that about 4.5 million pounds of undesirable Pakistani flue-cured, not suitable for high grade cigarettes, will be available for export in 1957. Prospects for substantial export sales this year depend to a great extent upon the materialization of satisfactory export incentives.

PRICE OF CIGARETTES RISE AGAIN IN FRENCH MOROCCO

Cigarette prices were recently increased about 1.4 to 7.2 U.S. cents per package in French Morocco, with proportionate increases on other tobacco products. As a result, the price of standard U.S. cigarettes is now about 44 U.S. cents per pack with Moroccan cigarettes available at about one-half of this price.

Strong efforts are being made to restore and even increase production of light air-cured tobacco in the Meknes region. Drying installations which were destroyed earlier are to be rebuilt. Meknes has been in the past a relatively minor producing area but strong interest is now developing in expanding production to relieve the unemployment problem.

ARGENTINA EXPECTS LARGER 1956-57 TOBACCO CROP

The 1956-57 tobacco crop in Argentina is reportedly forecast at 97.8 million pounds from 117,600 acres, compared with the 1955-56 crop of 85.5 million pounds from 95,600 acres. Flue-cured production in Salta-Jujuy is estimated at 24.3 million pounds from 32,100 acres, compared with the 1955-56 crop of 28.7 million from 21,000 acres. This acreage would normally yield 35.3 million pounds, but the crop was drastically reduced by a hail storm in late January. Production of dark air-cured types, Criollo, Bahia and Habano, are forecast at 55.0 million pounds, or about 43 percent larger than the 1955-56 crop of 38.5 million. Burley production is placed at 1.2 million pounds, compared with 1.0 million last year. Production of other light air-cured types, Kentucky fire-cured and oriental, are expected to approximate the 1955-56 levels.

Tobacco production in Argentina is increasing despite the caution that it would exceed manufacturers requirements. Surplus production in Salta-Jujuy area alone from the 1956-57 crop is currently placed at 11 million pounds. The outlook for tobacco exports, reportedly, is not too favorable. Exports in 1956 were made through the help of exchange manipulations. The quantity involved by country of destination is not currently available.

COLOMBIA MAY LEVY AN ADDITIONAL TAX ON DOMESTIC CIGARETTES

The Instituto de Fomento Tabacalero reportedly has requested the Colombian Government to charge a 2 centavos (about one U. S. cent) quota development charge (tax) per package of domestically produced cigarettes. Receipts from this tax will be used to pay expenses of extending seed selection, seed bed construction, and other experimental costs designed to improve quality and increase yield per unit. Estimated revenue is placed at about 12 million pesos annually based on current consumption.

SALISBURY'S FLUE-CURED MARKET OPENS MARCH 12

The Rhodesian Tobacco Association announced January 24, 1957 that the 1957 sales of flue-cured tobacco will begin March 12, according to a recent report.

U.S. RICE EXPORTS AT NEW RECORD LEVEL

New Record rice exports from the United States in December totaled 4,050,000 bags (100 pounds) in terms of milled, as compared with 707,000 bags in the same month of the year before. The previous record exports were in August, when 2,786,000 bags were exported. Continued heavy exports in September, October, and November were 1,536,000, 2,471,000, and 1,233,000 bags, respectively.

The principal countries of destination in December were Indonesia, Pakistan, India, and Cuba. Rice was shipped to several countries in the Western Hemisphere, including Guatemala, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Haiti, Bermuda, Canal Zone, Jamaica, and the French West Indies. Increased exports to Europe were to Belgium-Luxembourg, Switzerland, Netherlands, Sweden, Greece and West Germany, in order of volume.

Rice exports from the United States in the August-December period of the current marketing year of 12,076,000 bags were more than double the 5,461,000 bags exported in the like period of the year before, and exceeded total exports of the 1955-56 marketing year. Increased exports to Asia during the period accounted for three-fourths of total exports.

Seventy-two percent of rice exports during the 5-month period went to three countries in Asia - Indonesia, Pakistan, and India. Sizable exports also went to Turkey, and Saudi Arabia.

Rice exports to Western Hemisphere countries in the August-December period were 16 percent above those in the corresponding period of 1955. Exports to Cuba were larger, and shipments increased to Bolivia, British West Indies, Surinam, Haiti, and other countries. Rice exports to Europe were more than double those of August-December 1955 with the principal increase occurring in exports to Belgium-Luxembourg.

RICE: United States exports, in terms of milled, to specified countries, December 1956, with comparisons 1/

Country of destination	August-July		August-December		December	
	1954-55	1955-56	1955	1956 2/	1955	1956 2/
	: 1,000 :	: 1,000 :	: 1,000 :	: 1,000 :	: 1,000 :	: 1,000 :
	: cwt. :	: cwt. :	: cwt. :	: cwt. :	: cwt. :	: cwt. :
<u>Western Hemisphere:</u>	:	:	:	:	:	:
Canada	560:	397:	260:	171:	22:	23
British Honduras	33:	35:	13:	8:	3:	0
British West Indies	5:	8:	5:	81:	2:	2
Cuba	3,391:	2,927:	1,608:	1,845:	313:	526
El Salvador	3/ :	44:	2:	0:	0:	0
Haiti	124:	5:	2:	9:	1:	1
Netherlands Antilles	38:	28:	15:	16:	5:	3
Bolivia	0:	191:	110:	176:	0:	0
Colombia	205:	13:	10:	0:	10:	0
Venezuela	84:	32:	1:	3:	1:	1
Surinam	0:	0:	0:	20:	0:	0
Other countries	35:	148:	27:	46:	5:	11
Total	4,475:	3,828:	2,053:	2,375:	362:	567
<u>Europe:</u>	:	:	:	:	:	:
Belgium-Luxembourg	460:	298:	151:	388:	27:	49
France	3/ :	78:	3/ :	1:	0:	0
Austria	23:	5:	0:	2:	0:	0
Western Germany	38:	53:	27:	1:	0:	1
Netherlands	71:	31:	5:	41:	1:	7
Sweden	72:	8:	7:	10:	3/ :	4
Switzerland	53:	22:	16:	51:	5:	25
Other countries	97:	7:	3:	22:	1:	1
Total	814:	502:	209:	516:	34:	87
<u>Asia:</u>	:	:	:	:	:	:
India	0:	215:	205:	1,042:	205:	1,042
Indochina	0:	220:	220:	10:	0:	10
Indonesia	0:	516:	0:	4,749:	0:	1,218
Japan	4,125:	2,283:	2,379:	91:	58:	2/
Pakistan	0:	2,653:	0:	2,878:	0:	1,089
Philippine Republic	25:	28:	17:	11:	6:	0
Saudi Arabia	136:	75:	47:	52:	13:	28
Turkey	0:	3:	0:	218:	0:	0
Other countries	11:	36:	6:	22:	4:	5
Total	4,297:	6,029:	2,874:	9,073:	286:	3,392
Total Oceania	19:	39:	14:	19:	1:	2
Liberia	219:	276:	94:	76:	22:	0
French West Africa	0:	625:	200:	0:	0:	0
Other Africa	10:	21:	8:	10:	0:	3/
Destination not specified :	14:	26:	9:	7:	2:	2
World total	9,848:4/	11,346:	5,461:5/	12,076:	707:	4,050

1/ Includes brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice, and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500 cwt. 4/ Does not include an estimated 700,000 cwt. which is the milled equivalent of ground rough rice sold by Commodity Credit Corporation for export as animal feed; nor 966,639 cwt. of supplementary exports by welfare organizations. 5/ Does not include 503,976 cwt. exported by welfare organizations during August and September 1956, the latest period for which data are available.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

RICE: United States exports, by country of destination
and by classification, December 1956 1/

Country of destination	Rough		Milled		Total (in terms of milled)
	Unmilled	In terms of milled 2/	Not over 25% whole	Over 25% whole	
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Western Hemisphere:					
Canada	13,701	8,906	70	13,707	22,683
Guatemala	0	0	0	5,010	5,010
Nicaragua	0	0	0	2,000	2,000
Canal Zone	0	0	0	3,904	3,904
Bermuda	0	0	0	858	858
Cuba	13,400	8,710	2,703	514,784	526,197
Jamaica	0	0	672	71	743
Haiti	1,430	929	0	0	929
Netherlands Antilles	0	0	0	3,063	3,063
French West Indies	0	0	0	60	60
Venezuela	1,409	916	0	0	916
Total	29,940	19,461	3,445	543,457	566,363
Europe:					
Sweden	0	0	0	4,465	4,465
Netherlands	0	0	6,955	0	6,955
Belgium-Luxembourg	0	0	447	48,642	49,089
Western Germany	0	0	0	800	800
Switzerland	0	0	760	23,768	24,528
Greece	0	0	0	968	968
Total	0	0	8,162	78,643	86,805
Asia:					
Lebanon	70	45	0	0	45
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0	27,749	27,749
India	0	0	0	1,041,909	1,041,909
Pakistan	0	0	0	1,089,057	1,089,057
Indochina	0	0	0	10,000	10,000
Indonesia	0	0	0	1,218,002	1,218,002
Korean Republic	0	0	0	5,000	5,000
Japan	0	0	0	401	401
Total	70	45	0	3,392,118	3,392,163
Trust territory of the Pacific:	0	0	0	2,436	2,436
Tunisia	0	0	0	423	423
Destination not specified	0	0	0	1,712	1,712
World total	30,010	19,506	11,607	4,018,789	4,049,902

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Rough rice converted at 65 percent.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

WINTER WHEAT PROSPECTS VARIABLE

Fall weather in Western Europe was mostly favorable for seeding winter grains. Though some countries reported lateness of fall harvesting operations held up seeding and caused some reduction in the acreage under winter grains, the total wheat acreage for Western Europe is expected to at least equal that sown for 1956. Winter wheat normally accounts for over 90 percent of total wheat acreage there, but larger proportions of the total may be put into spring wheat when conditions are adverse for winter wheat.

Larger than usual spring wheat acreage was seeded last year in countries where winter wheat suffered damage from winterkill. This was especially marked in France. High yields from spring wheat last season reportedly increased growers' interest in such varieties, yields of which normally do not compare favorably with winter wheat yields. Weather conditions in this area have been generally favorable throughout the winter, with little damage from winterkill indicated to date. Moisture conditions have been reported favorable in most areas. Grain seeding was cut short by very early cold weather in parts of Eastern Europe and some countries of that area are expected to have smaller breadgrain crops as a result.

Conditions are varied in Asia. Wheat prospects are generally excellent in India, and the harvest which normally gets under way in March is expected to be a record or near-record one. Prospects also point to a large crop in Pakistan. In parts of Asia, however, especially in Turkey, Korea and parts of Japan, insufficient rainfall is causing concern for the winter crops. Most serious conditions are reported for the principal surplus producing area of Turkey, where extended drought made conditions so unfavorable that only about half the usual acreage was seeded to winter grains. Forecasts place Turkey's 1957 wheat harvest considerably below the small 1956 outturn, which was reduced by drought during the growing season.

The outlook for wheat in North Africa is also less favorable than in 1956 because of drought in some areas and local disturbances in others. Crop damage in Morocco is attributed to drought and dust storms, while disturbed conditions appear to have reduced cultivation materially in some parts of Algeria.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
REPORTS RECORD WHEAT CROP

The Union of South Africa's recently completed wheat harvest is now estimated at 30,310,000 bushels, slightly smaller than the earlier-season forecast of 31,047,000 bushels, but still a record crop. The decline is due to a reduction in the outturn of the Orange Free State, where adverse weather conditions reduced the yields of both winter and spring wheat. Though the production for that State turned out less than had been expected, it was still larger than the 1955 harvest. (Continued on next page)

The current estimate for the Union is slightly above the previous record outturn in 1955 and would cover normal requirements for the country. Recent reports indicate that little if any wheat will be imported during the 1956-57 marketing season. In recent years wheat imports to supplement indigenous production came from Canada and the United States.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE REPORTED IN ZULIA

The most recent Venezuelan outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease was reported in the State of Zulia Venezuela's principal dairy area. Strict control has been placed on the movement of animals and products in the area and a large scale vaccination program was started. About 40 percent of the total cattle population of 400,000 head have been vaccinated. No information was reported on the effect that the disease outbreak had on milk production.

WEST GERMANY'S CHEESE IMPORTS CONTINUE HIGH

West Germany's imports of cheese during the first 11 months of 1956 at 148.8 million pounds were 13 percent above the same period of 1955. Most of the increase occurred in Danish supplies. Imports of butter totaled 67.5 million pounds and were only slightly above those of the previous year. Shipments from the chief supplying countries, Denmark, Netherlands and New Zealand, declined, while those from Norway, Sweden and the United States increased.

SHIPMENTS OF NEW ZEALAND BUTTER TO THE U.K. SHOW INCREASE

Arrivals of New Zealand butter in United Kingdom ports during January, 1957 were 51.6 million pounds, a gain of 15.0 million pounds over the corresponding month of 1956. Arrivals of cheese dropped to 18.2 million pounds from 25.0 million pounds in the earlier year. Shipments of both butter and cheese afloat at the end of January were approximately 25 percent below the 1956 level, while expected arrivals during February were somewhat smaller than those of the previous year.

NEW ZEALAND TO ESTABLISH
NEW SHIPPING LINK WITH
FAR EAST

A regular shipping link between New Zealand, Indonesia and Malaya is to be established late in February. It is a revival of a similar service maintained between 1937 and 1941 which was terminated with the entry of Japan in World War II.

Two refrigerated ships, Van Neck and Roggeveen, operated by the Dutch Royal Interocean lines, expect to adhere to a strict schedule of port calls over 6-week run periods. Ports included in the itinerary are Auckland, Wellington, possibly Lyttelton and Dunedin in New Zealand; Sydney in Australia; Singapore, and ports in Java and Malaya. Both ships are fitted with modern equipment to facilitate quick-loading and unloading of cargoes.

Trade from New Zealand and Australia to the Southeast Asian ports will consist primarily of shipments of meat, dairy products, fruits and paper, while on the return trip the ships will carry rubber, kapok, tea, sago and tapioca, pepper, tobacco and coffee.

Inauguration of this new service is particularly important to New Zealand which has been seriously handicapped in exporting to Far East markets because of irregular and infrequent shipping facilities.

FURTHER DAIRY EXPANSION
PLANNED FOR INDIA

Construction of a milk powder factory, having a daily capacity between 33,000 and 41,000 pounds of fluid milk, is proposed near Darbhanga, a city with a population of 85,000, located in the vicinity of the Nepal border in Northern India. The plant would begin operations by the end of 1958.

The proposed plant is one of those planned under India's Second 5-year Plan (see Foreign Crops and Markets, August 20, 1956). Additional proposals under the 5-year Plan call for the construction of 2 creameries in Bihar and 30 new projects under the administration of the Animal Husbandry Department. The creameries will each handle about 8,000 pounds of milk per day for ghee manufacture. The animal husbandry projects, at an estimated cost of \$12.6 million, are aimed at general cattle improvement and better organization of milk production and distribution through the establishment of cooperatives.

INDIAN CASHEW DEVELOPMENT PLANS DISCUSSED

Plans have been formulated to increase production of raw cashews in India to more than 100,000 short tons by 1960-61 as compared to the overall current production of about 80,000 short tons of raw nuts. This information was gleaned from a recent report covering a meeting of the Indian Central Spices and Cashew Nut Committee which met in Kerala early in February.

The report further relates:

"Some 60,000 acres of forest lands are proposed to be devoted to cashew production on a plantation pattern in the states of Madras and Kerala. Large areas of land are also proposed to be brought under cashew cultivation in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Mysore, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Five research stations are operating in Mysore, Kerala, Bombay, Andhra and Upper Assam and conducting research on various phases of cashew cultivation. Cashew exports, mostly to U.S. and U.K., earned for India about 135 million rupees (About \$28 million U.S. dollars) in 1955-56."

INDIA CONSIDERS DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR PEPPER

A meeting of the Central Spices and Cashewnut Committee held at Cannanore (Kerala) on February 2, 1957 discussed plans for the development of pepper production in various states in India. The target of pepper production under the Second Five Year Plan has been set at 36,000 tons as against the current production of 26,000 tons in 1955-56. Steps taken to achieve the target includes the formulation of a project for intensive cultivation of pepper in the State of Kerala which produces roughly 92 percent of the total Indian pepper crop. Possibilities for the promotion of pepper cultivation in the States of West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Island, Mysore, Assam and Bombay are being explored.

AUSTRALIAN APPLE AND PEAR SHIPMENTS BEGIN

The Australian Apple and Pear Board has announced that shipments of both apples and pears are now getting underway.

The Board estimates that total exports by country of destination for the 1957 season will be approximately as follows:

Apples		:	Pears	
Destination	Boxes	:	Destination	Boxes
United Kingdom....	3,000,000	:	United Kingdom..	1,000,000
Sweden.....	500,000	:	Sweden.....	220,000
Continental Europe:		:	Other Continental	30,000
(Antwerp &		:		
Rotherdam).....	200,000	:		
Norway.....	75,000	:		

DEMAND OFF FOR NETHERLANDS ONIONS

Demand for Dutch onions has lessened considerably in conjunction with the advent of the availability of supplies from the Mediterranean area.

Stocks in Dutch air-conditioned storages remain ample and price reductions have resulted.

Dutch exports for the 1956-57 season, through the end of January, show a sharp increase over last year; almost 2,317,000 cwt. as compared to nearly 1,618,000 cwt. during the same period in 1955-56.

The United Kingdom and West Germany have purchased the great bulk of Dutch exports but both countries are now reported to be importing substantial volume from Italy.

PRICE OF GLACE CHERRIES INCREASING

London spot prices of No. 1 Bigarreaux glace cherries have risen about one cent per pound in response to the news that on March 1 the French Government will withdraw the sugar subsidy on the quota used by the industry in Apt.

It is believed that French f.o.b. prices will rise about 2 cents per pound as a result of the increase in processing costs.

IRANIAN DATE SALES TO U.S. COMPLETED

Recent information from Iran indicates that there are no further supplies of dates suitable for shipment to the United States, other than those for which contracts have already been made. Some poor quality stocks still remain suitable only for shipment to neighboring countries. By the end of November 1956 approximately 17,000 short tons of the 1956 crop had been exported to all countries. Total exports of Iranian dates in the 1956-57 season have been forecast at 22,000 short tons, a considerable reduction from the 1955-56 export volume of 33,400 tons. The wholesale price in the Tehran market is currently 3.6 to 7.1 cents per pound, depending on quality.

ISRAELI CITRUS EXPORTS DOWN

Israeli citrus shipments for the 1956-57 season through the end of January ran slightly below the same period last season.

Total exports for this season with totals for the same period last year in parentheses included 2,065,000 boxes of Shamouti oranges (2,332,800), 409,500 boxes grapefruit (398,700), 95,400 boxes lemons (130,522) and almost 95,600 boxes clementines and other citrus fruit (7,631).

United Kingdom was by far the leading customer for Israeli citrus with Sweden, Finland, Norway, Germany, Holland, and Denmark following in that order.

REPORT OF THE BRITISH WOOL MARKETING BOARD

The British Wool Marketing Board recently issued a press notice reporting on the first 6 years of producer wool marketing. Including the 1955 clip, the Board has marketed nearly 400 million pounds of wool from over 600,000 individual producers. The peak year was 1954 when 72.6 million from 107,000 producers was sold through the Board.

The Marketing Board has been successful in increasing the average grower's returns for wool. During the 1955 season British wool sold for the highest average price in the world, while in the 1950 season the average price was almost \$.20 per pound less than the average Australian auction price.

Progress has also been made in increasing production and reducing production faults. Shorn wool production in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland increased by one-fifth between 1950 and 1955. There has been no substantial rise in wool production in Scotland during the period.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL
PRICES HIGHER

Wool auctions were held at Sydney and Melbourne during the week ending February 8, with 130,000 bales offered.

The market continued very strong and prices for all types were slightly above the previous week's levels. Japan, the United Kingdom and the Continent were the principal buyers with some support from local mills.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES

Wool Prices: Average raw wool costs, clean basis, on Australian auction floors, by quality classification.

(Current prices with comparisons)

Type and Grade	Week Ended			
	2-1-57	2-8-57	2-3-56	
- - - - - U. S. Dollars Per Pound - - - - -				
<u>Combing Wools</u>				
70's Good.....	1.69	1.70	1.31	
Average.....	1.62	1.63	1.23	
64's Good.....	1.53	1.55	1.15	
Average.....	1.49	1.51	1.11	
60's Good.....	1.39	1.41	a/ 1.01	
Average.....	1.35	1.37	1.00	
58's Good.....	1.27	1.29	a/ .95	
Average.....	1.21	1.23	a/ .92	
56's Good.....	1.15	1.17	a/ .89	
Average.....	1.11	1.13	a/ .88	
50's Good.....	1.01	1.03	a/ .81	
Average.....	.98	1.00	a/ .80	
<u>Carding Wools</u>				
Merino.....	.94	.96	a/ .78	
Comeback.....	.85	.87	a/ .72	
Fine Crossbred.....	.80	.82	a/ .68	
Medium Crossbred.....	.78	.80	a/ .67	

Source: Wool Statistical Service Australian Wool Bureau

a/ nominal

ARGENTINE SHEEP NUMBERS INCREASE

The June 1956 census placed sheep numbers in Argentina at 47.4 million head compared with 46.8 million in 1954. Since the devaluation of the peso in October 1955 and the revision of the "aforo" system affecting export prices, wool prices in Argentina have increased substantially and are now relatively favorable to cattle prices.

The number of sheep on farms in the Argentine in mid-1954 was the smallest for any census since 1937. In the Littoral area there has been a general tendency for sheep production to decline due to more competition from cattle and cultivated crops. However, there was a temporary increase in numbers during and immediately following World War II. Between 1954 and 1956 sheep numbers in the Province of Buenos Aires, one of the main producing districts in the Littoral region, declined from 15.7 million head to 13.0 million. Numbers in Corrientes increased from 3.1 to 3.6 million during the period to establish a new high for the province.

Sheep numbers in Patagonia also increased between 1954 and 1956 but the extent of the change has not been revealed.

ARGENTINA: Number of sheep and lambs on farms and ranches,
specified dates, 1908-1956

Year	Patagonia 1/	Littoral Region 2/	Other Areas	Total
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1908.....	11,252	52,519	3,441	67,212
1914.....	10,366	29,686	3,173	43,225
1922.....	12,753	20,989	2,467	36,209
1930.....	15,957	24,678	3,778	44,413
1934.....	15,817	21,429	2,084	39,330
1937.....	17,027	23,582	3,274	43,883
1942 3/.....	19,676	28,833	2,393	50,902
1945.....	-	-	-	56,182
1947 (May).....	17,787	28,624	4,761	51,172
1952 (November).....	20,419	30,168	4,097	54,684
1954 (June).....	16,207	26,333	4,232	46,772
1956 (June).....				47,371

1/ Includes all districts from Rio Negro and Neuquen southwards. 2/ Includes Buenos Aires, Cordoba, Corrientes, Entre Rios, Santa Fe, and La Pampa
3/ Excludes lambs.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock as reported in "The Review of the River Plate."

JAPAN'S MEAT INDUSTRY EXPANDS

Japan's production of processed meats has risen with extraordinary rapidity during the postwar period. Production of ham, sausage, and bacon during 1955 was over 8 times the 1934-36 average.

Since World War II, the Japanese have been consuming more and more meat and meat products. The increasing production of ham, sausage, and bacon has made meat processing one of the 10 fastest growing industries in Japan. This increase has been encouraged by the Japanese government. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has announced that \$1.4 million will be made available to public owned meat processing concerns and to cooperatives for improvement of their facilities. These funds are drawn from proceeds of the sale of United States' surplus farm commodities for yen which have been allocated to Japan for use in economic development.

The rapid growth of the industry raises the possibility of future exports of processed meats from Japan. Reliable sources report that at least one Osaka trading concern has received inquiries from Southwest Asia concerning the exportation of processed meat and meat products to that area.

JAPANESE SOYBEAN MISSION TO VISIT RED CHINA

Negotiations have been conducted with the Communist Chinese Export-Import Corporation regarding the despatch of a 15-man mission to Red China, according to the Japan Soybean Association. The Association is selecting representatives from all segments of the soybean industry, including oil processors, miso makers, shoyu makers, tofu makers, natto makers, soybean importers, and soybean products wholesalers. The mission, scheduled to leave for Red China some time in April for a one-month visit, will check the production, quality, stocks, availability, warehousing and loading facilities of Chinese soybeans. It is rumored that the mission may also negotiate for the purchase of soybeans.

NEW SLAUGHTER PLANT FOR SPAIN

A new slaughter plant is to be opened at Lugo, northwest Spain, early this year. The plant, which will be the most modern in Spain, will have cold storage capacity for 4,500 tons of meat and will be able to handle the slaughter of 500 cattle, 250 pigs, and 3,500 sheep per day. The State National Industrial Institute is sponsoring the development.

WORLD BUTTER AND CHEESE PRICES

DAIRY PRODUCTS: Wholesale prices at specified markets,
with comparisons

(In U. S. Cents Per Pound)

Country, market and description	Butter				Cheese			
	Date 1957	Price	Quotations		Date 1957	Price	Quotations	
			Month earlier	Year earlier			Month earlier	Year earlier
United Kingdom (London)								
New Zealand, finest grade	Jan. 31	32.5	34.1	47.9				
Australia, choicest grade	Jan. 31	32.2	34.0	47.5				
New Zealand, finest white					Jan. 31	30.2	31.7	34.2
Australia, choicest white					Jan. 31	28.2	30.1	33.5
Australia (Sydney)								
Choicest butter	Feb. 1	46.7	46.7	45.3				
Choicest Cheddar					Feb. 1	28.2	28.2	27.5
Irish Republic (Dublin)								
Creamery butter (bulk)	Feb. 1	48.6	48.6	48.6				
Cheese					Feb. 1	30.6	30.6	30.6
Denmark (Copenhagen)	Jan. 31	46.0	46.0	50.3				
France (Paris)								
Charentes Creamery butter	Feb. 4	92.2	90.9	92.2				
Germany (Kempten)								
Markenbutter	Jan. 30	68.0	67.6	67.0				
United States								
92-score creamery (N.Y.)	Jan. 25	60.5	60.5	58.2				
Cheddar (Wisconsin)					Jan. 25	35.0	35.0	33.5
Netherlands (Leeuwarden)								
Creamery butter	Jan. 26	51.8	49.3	56.7				
Full cream Gouda					Jan. 25	29.2	27.0	24.4
Edam 40 percent					Jan. 25	26.7	24.7	22.0
Belgium (Hasselt)	Jan. 31	86.7	88.3	83.9				
Canada (Montreal)								
1st grade creamery	Jan. 26	60.6	60.6	58.4				
Ontario white					Jan. 26	35.3	35.3	30.5

1/ Does not include rebate of 1.125 cents per pound payable on return of boxes.

Sources: Intelligence Bulletin, The Commonwealth Economic Committee; and The Dairy Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

VENEZUELAN BABY CHICK QUOTA INCREASED FOR FIRST QUARTER

The Venezuelan Ministry of Development recently increased the baby chick import quota for the January-March period by 588,500. This raised the total for the first quarter of 1957 to over one million chicks. According to the Caracas press, chick quotas were increased because of the apparent inability of local hatcheries to supply a sufficient number of baby chicks.

WORLD PRODUCTION OF SOYBEANS AGAIN AT NEW HIGH LEVEL

World production of soybeans in 1956 is estimated at 854 million bushels by the Foreign Agricultural Service. This confirms the November 1956 estimate of a record crop for the third successive year, exceeding 1955 estimated output by over 10 percent and average prewar production by 86 percent.

About 96 percent of the estimated 85.8 million-bushel increase from 1955 is accounted for by the expansion in the United States. Some increase is reported for China-Manchuria, but the actual extent of the increase is still largely speculative. Relatively small increases are recorded for Brazil, South Korea, Nigeria, Taiwan, Thailand and Turkey. Smaller crops were produced in Japan, Canada, Indonesia, and Yugoslavia.

The United States and China-Manchuria produce over 90 percent of the world's soybeans and export nearly all of the beans and oil that move in world trade. Total world exports have been trending upward since 1953, reflecting expanded production and limited supplies of competing oils and oilseeds. The U. S. share of such shipments also has increased in the last two years. U. S. exports of soybeans and oil from the 1956 crop are expected to reach a record level, mainly reflecting strong world demand and reduced exportable supplies of competing oils and oilseeds.

Soybean production in the United States in 1956 is estimated at a record 455,869,000 bushels from a record 20,926,000 harvested acres. This is an increase of 22 percent from the previous high produced in 1955 and 80 percent above the 10-year (1945-54) average. Satisfactory soybean prices for the 1955 crop and continued restrictions on acreage planted to corn, wheat and cotton in 1956 induced farmers to increase their plantings to soybeans for all purposes by 2.3 million acres last spring. Favorable growing conditions in most of the main soybean belt resulted in a national average yield, estimated at 21.8 bushels per acre, the second highest of record. The main soybean area centering in Illinois had a near perfect season with the yield and production in that state breaking all previous records. Illinois accounted for over one-fifth of the total harvested acreage and almost one-third of total production in 1956.

Canada harvested 4,935,000 bushels of soybeans in 1956, a decline of 13 percent from the record crop of 1955 but one-third above the 5-year (1949-55) average. Soybean acreage increased 7 percent but unfavorable weather reduced the yield to 21.6 bushels compared with the all-time high of 26.4 bushels in 1955. This was the first year since 1943 that Canadian soybean production declined from output of the previous year.

Prior to 1956, soybeans were produced commercially only in Ontario Province, although attempts had been made to introduce the crop elsewhere, particularly in Manitoba. Last year an estimated 3,000 acres were planted in Manitoba but the growing season was too short and yields ranged from complete failures to about 15 bushels per acre with the average probably about 10 bushels. As Canada's production supplies only about one-half of the domestic requirements for soybeans, large quantities are imported, principally from the United States.

On the basis of claims of a substantial increase in soybean acreage in 1956 in China-Manchuria, particularly in the Northeast, as well as claims of increased output, also in the Northeast, total production in all China may have been somewhat larger than in 1955. On the other hand, in view of the extensive floods reported to have occurred in the major soybean-producing areas, it appears unlikely that over-all production increased extensively from the previous year. Consequently, the 1956 crop currently is believed to have been in the neighborhood of 340 million bushels. This means that production in the last 3 years has been below the prewar average and also below output in 1952 and 1953.

Japan's crop has been estimated at 16.7 million bushels, a decrease of 10 percent from the near-record 18.6 million bushels harvested in 1955. Acreage increased somewhat in Hokkaido, the major producing area, but growing conditions were unfavorable due to below normal temperatures. Acreage decreased in other areas. To supply soybean consumption needs, domestic production is supplemented by heavy imports, largely from the United States. Japan is the major market for U. S. soybeans, accounting for well over one-third of the total exports in recent years.

Contrary to earlier indications, production in Indonesia is now reported at 12.6 bushels or slightly less than in the previous year. Output in Yugoslavia also was down slightly and the harvest in Eastern Europe was believed to be somewhat lower.

Likewise, contrary to earlier reports, Brazil's 1956 production at almost 4.4 million bushels was slightly larger than in 1955. Larger crops also were reported for South Korea, Thailand, Taiwan and Turkey.

Soybean production in Africa is relatively insignificant. Nigeria is the major producer but small quantities also are grown in British East Africa, the Belgian Congo and the Union of South Africa. As local consumption is small in Nigeria, exports are a reliable measure of production. Exports in 1956 were expected to approximate 560,000 bushels or almost 50 percent more than in 1955.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad.

JAPAN'S RAPESEED PLANTINGS UP FROM 1956

Japan's 1957 rapeseed plantings are now unofficially estimated at 700,000 acres, a 12.5 percent increase from 1956.

Growing conditions have improved during the last few weeks due to rains and higher temperatures following a severe drought during late November through late January. The crop condition of rapeseed is indicated as about the same as a year ago for the 1956 crop; therefore, it appears at this time that the same yield may be expected from the 1957 crop. This would result in a record outturn of 397,000 tons.

JAPAN: Rapeseed, acreage and production, annual 1953 through 1957

Year	Planted Area	Yield	Production
	(1,000 acres)	(Pounds per acre)	(1,000 short tons)
1953.....	605	1,053	318
1954.....	431	1,123	242
1955.....	513	1,158	297
1956.....	623	1,133	<u>1</u> / 353
1957.....	700	1,133	397

1/ Revised

The volume of soybeans imported in any year by Japan, the largest single market for U. S. beans, is influenced by the size of the domestic crop of rapeseed.

GERMAN IMPORT TENDERS PUBLISHED FOR IMPORT FROM THE UNITED STATES

The German Federal Ministry of Agriculture published February 6, a tender for the importation of approximately 240,000 dollars worth of crystallized egg whites from the United States. Application for licenses by West German importers can be made until June 28, 1957 or until the value limit is reached.

U.S. FISH OIL EXPORTS DECLINE IN 1956

Fish oil exports from the United States in 1956 totaled 70,402 short tons, slightly less than the record 71,336 tons exported in 1955.

Western Europe again was the major market, taking 97 percent of the total or almost 9,000 tons more than in the previous year. West Germany and the Netherlands continued to be the principal buyers of U.S. fish oil. Exports to West Germany in 1956 were almost 3 times the 1955 tonnage while exports to the Netherlands declined about 40 percent from the previous year. Exports to Canada dropped to less than 2,000 tons compared with over 11,000 in 1955.

UNITED STATES: Fish oil exports by country of destination,
average 1935-39, annual 1952-56
(Short tons)

Country of destination	Average: 1935-39	1952	1953	1954	1955 1/	1956 1/
NORTH AMERICA:						
Canada.....	458	488	2,108	7,511	11,251	1,603
Cuba.....	155	100	87	126	83	85
Mexico.....	45	122	114	118	81	66
Other.....	71	3	1	-	1	28
Total.....	729	713	2,310	7,755	11,416	1,782
SOUTH AMERICA:	96	38	63	148	56	62
EUROPE:						
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	8	8	764	-	1,098	750
Denmark.....	-	-	-	-	-	866
France.....	19	149	7	-	9	13
Western Germany.....	126	6,232	36,155	10,481	10,503	32,490
Italy.....	15	220	28	85	106	60
Netherlands.....	15	11,967	8,913	43,692	39,642	24,075
Norway.....	10	-	1,606	1,102	6,758	6,251
Sweden.....	7	-	-	-	-	2,646
Switzerland.....	15	3,140	3,115	5,797	646	367
United Kingdom.....	77	-	299	1,376	881	920
Other.....	8	43	23	27	23	-
Total.....	300	21,759	50,910	62,560	59,666	68,438
ASIA:						
Philippines, Republic of.....	66	546	860	233	-	4
Other.....	24	20	37	51	55	5
Total.....	90	566	897	284	55	9
AFRICA:	19	3	53	70	68	25
Grand total.....	1,234	23,079	54,233	70,817	71,336 2/	70,402 3/

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes 75 tons whose destination is not indicated.

3/ Includes 86 tons whose destination is not indicated.

U.S. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS FOR THE 1955-56 CALENDAR YEAR

UNITED STATES: Summary of exports, domestic, of selected agricultural commodities and groups during 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity exported	Unit	Year ended Dec. 31			
		Quantity		Value	
		1955	1956	1955	1956
				1,000	1,000
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
ANIMAL PRODUCTS:					
Cheese	Lb.:	22,897	25,441	7,580	17,716
Milk, condensed	Lb.:	8,012	39,851	1,943	8,776
Milk, evaporated	Lb.:	154,800	170,101	22,963	26,547
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.:	45,891	40,483	23,232	19,853
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.:	231,349	306,652	24,051	32,723
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.:	49,725	44,721	20,126	19,246
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.:	40,664	81,087	10,835	24,554
Pork, total b/	Lb.:	66,323	75,571	17,111	19,323
Other meats b/	Lb.:	121,951	165,836	31,733	42,022
Lard, including shortening	Lb.:	563,147	612,575	76,268	79,760
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.:	1,140,019	1,393,729	94,181	113,508
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale:	2,591	4,740	469,402	717,916
Apples, fresh	Lb.:	104,302	100,719	8,703	8,144
Grapefruit, fresh	Lb.:	146,701	176,894	5,842	7,996
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.:	670,154	897,877	34,984	54,361
Pears, fresh	Lb.:	39,707	48,736	3,560	4,468
Prunes, dried	Lb.:	80,334	111,245	14,303	18,697
Raisins and currants	Lb.:	118,146	139,650	12,552	17,847
Fruits, canned	Lb.:	225,643	318,622	36,328	48,158
Fruit juices	Gal.:	28,534	33,999	27,793	36,517
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.:	71,948	82,148	79,103	91,272
Barley, malt (34 lb.)	Bu.:	3,914	4,767	8,920	10,544
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.:	108,110	117,279	168,838	182,500
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.:	62,417	54,949	66,194	62,997
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.:	1,098,248	1,786,263	77,274	130,504
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.:	221,949	408,853	387,167	693,742
Flour, wholly of U. S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag:	21,470	24,182	93,345	101,051
Flour, not wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag:	78	27	375	126
Hops	Lb.:	11,936	12,180	6,497	6,879
Nuts and preparations	Lb.:	16,294	46,663	6,843	22,466
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.:	67,843	68,561	174,455	177,612
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ...	Lb.:	134,484	684,248	20,531	107,535
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.:	579,255	606,508	78,497	91,929
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.:	36,985	61,031	12,315	16,868
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.:	456,498	420,439	307,099	279,822
Tobacco, leaf, other	Lb.:	80,496	87,581	48,896	53,435
Beans, dried	Lb.:	138,196	246,743	11,087	15,767
Peas, dried(except cowpeas & chickpeas)	Lb.:	58,693	c/ 88,141	5,133	c/ 6,078
Potatoes, white	Lb.:	394,256	337,010	9,963	11,716
Vegetables, fresh, other	Lb.:	693,038	794,250	33,225	39,599
Vegetables, canned	Lb.:	162,714	208,190	22,739	28,159
Food exported for relief, etc.	:	:	:	171,129	175,115
Other agricultural commodities	:	:	:	463,857	535,833
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL	:	:	:	3,196,972	4,159,681
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES	:	:	:	15,405,914	18,773,503

a/ Preliminary

b/ Product weight

c/ Includes cowpeas and chickpeas, January - June

ECUADOR TO EXPORT SOME
SMALL STEMS OF BANANAS

The Monetary Board in Quito, Ecuador has recently issued a regulation permitting each shipment of bananas to contain up to 7 percent of 7 and 8 hand stems. Exporters are permitted under the regulation to keep foreign exchange earnings from the sale of these small stems or to convert such earnings to Ecuadorian currency on the brokers free market (current rate is 19.20 sucres to one dollar).

The measure is designed to facilitate the export of small size stems, and trade sources feel that it will make it worthwhile to at least ship the 8 hand stems. However, export taxes are assessable on stems regardless of size and thus are still a deterrent to shipments of smaller size stems.

ARGENTINE SUNFLOWER PLANTINGS
DOWN MODERATELY

Argentine plantings of sunflower seed for harvest in March and April of 1957 are placed at 3.3 million acres, according to the first official estimate. This compares with 3.5 million acres planted and 2.7 million acres harvested for the 1956 crop. However, losses due to drought reportedly have reduced the acreage significantly in some areas. Sunflower seed production totaled 831,000 short tons in 1956, the largest since 1951.

WORLD COFFEE SUMMARY - 3RD
ESTIMATE 1956-57

World total production of green coffee for the marketing season 1956-57 is estimated by the Foreign Agricultural Service at 47.5 million bags (of 132 pounds each), a slight increase over the previous estimate. This is about 5.4 percent under the 50.3 million bags of 1955-56 and almost 30 percent above the average of 36.9 million bags for the 5-year (1946-47/1950-51) postwar period.

World exportable production for 1956-57 is estimated at 36.9 million bags, compared with 43.6 million bags for 1955-56 and an average of 33.3 million bags for the 5-year postwar period. The major increase in the current estimates occurred in Indonesia and Cuba. Indonesian exports, legal and unrecorded, are running ahead of anticipated shipments during the first 6 months of the marketing season. Cuba's new estimate represents an export quota which has been increased from 211,000 to 353,000 bags, although no change in the total harvest is anticipated.

Table 2.--GREEN COFFEE: World exportable production for the marketing year 1956-57, with comparisons 1/

(1,000 bags of 132.276 pounds each)

Continent and country	Average	1952-53		1953-54		1954-55		1955-56		3rd estimate	
	1946/47-1950/51										
NORTH AMERICA											
Costa Rica.....	316	478	331	508	364	552					
Cuba.....	(-112)	1	-	33	317	2/	353				
Dominican Republic.....	236	351	436	394	520	423					
El Salvador.....	1,108	1,232	927	1,190	1,105	1,322					
Guatemala.....	834	939	951	892	917	1,012					
Haiti.....	421	411	578	328	535	400					
Honduras.....	75	151	189	200	227	240					
Mexico.....	685	1,245	1,215	1,400	1,240	1,550					
Nicaragua.....	214	317	284	388	350	437					
Other North America 3/.....	31	45	135	102	202	200					
Total North America.....	3,920	5,170	5,046	5,435	5,777	6,489					
SOUTH AMERICA											
Brazil.....	14,380	15,200	14,300	14,200	21,300	12,700					
Colombia.....	5,200	5,705	6,348	5,665	6,100	6,700					
Ecuador.....	245	351	290	397	326	450					
Peru.....	14	75	74	110	94	112					
Venezuela.....	438	746	439	557	300	600					
Other South America 4/.....	22	48	52	55	55	60					
Total South America.....	20,299	22,125	21,503	20,984	28,175	20,622					
AFRICA											
Angola.....	828	949	1,261	954	1,170	1,050					
Belgian Congo.....	522	533	613	559	820	870					
Ethiopia.....	274	652	587	696	833	750					
French Cameroons.....	121	194	179	227	291	300					
French Togoland.....	33	51	61	66	90	130					
French West Africa.....	858	1,133	1,700	1,660	2,020	2,000					
Kenya.....	150	207	219	228	457	450					
Madagascar.....	453	692	743	586	884	670					
Tanganyika.....	234	216	315	315	333	330					
Uganda.....	488	561	620	1,168	1,290	1,400					
Other Africa 5/.....	201	169	242	221	261	300					
Total Africa.....	4,162	5,357	6,540	6,680	8,449	8,250					
ASIA AND OCEANIA											
India.....	27	108	163	60	2/	150					
Indonesia.....	108	387	939	444	875	1,200					
Yemen.....	89	58	58	50	50	50					
Other Asia and Oceania 6/.....	37	72	91	110	130	140					
Total Asia and Oceania.....	261	625	1,251	664	1,192	1,540					
WORLD EXPORTABLE PRODUCTION	28,642	33,277	34,340	33,763	43,593	36,901					

1/ The coffee marketing season begins during the second half of the calendar year, starting in some countries like Brazil as early as July 1 and in other countries about October 1. The 1956-57 season as used here began July 1, 1956.

2/ Export quotas. 3/ Includes Jamaica, Trinidad, Panama, Puerto Rico and Guadeloupe. 4/ Subject to further revision.

5/ Includes Cape Verde, French Equatorial Africa, Gold Coast and Nigeria. 6/ Includes French New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Portuguese Timor and Hawaii.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official publications of foreign governments, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other United States representatives abroad, and other information.

Table 1.--GREEN COFFEE: World total production for the marketing year 1956/57, with comparisons 1/

(1,000 bags of 132.276 pounds each)

Continent and country	Averages		1952-53		1953-54		Preliminary estimate		3rd estimate	
	1935/36-1939/40	1946/47-1950/51					1954-55	1955-56		1956-57
NORTH AMERICA										
Costa Rica.....	390	371	551	395	564	421	613			
Cuba.....	425	564	451	595	642	906	750			
Dominican Republic.....	347	348	442	526	485	610	515			
El Salvador.....	1,091	1,203	1,365	1,070	1,335	1,250	1,172			
Guatemala.....	1,002	1,044	1,119	1,140	1,080	1,117	1,202			
Haiti.....	538	617	616	768	528	735	600			
Honduras.....	57	131	197	249	263	287	300			
Mexico.....	959	1,004	1,461	1,415	1,600	1,440	1,750			
Nicaragua.....	280	277	372	339	443	405	497			
Other North America 2/.....	251	311	420	575	550	650	653			
Total North America.....	5,340	5,870	7,024	7,072	7,487	7,821	8,352			
SOUTH AMERICA										
Brazil.....	25,340	18,704	19,170	19,700	18,100	23,500	19,000			
Colombia.....	4,452	5,840	6,405	7,088	6,405	6,800	7,400			
Ecuador.....	254	270	390	330	437	375	500			
Peru.....	80	93	153	163	190	180	200			
Venezuela.....	940	698	960	670	820	600	900			
Other South America 3/.....	83	119	62	66	70	70	75			
Total South America.....	31,149	25,654	27,140	28,017	26,022	31,525	28,075			
AFRICA										
Angola.....	300	816	957	1,269	962	1,178	1,058			
Belgian Congo.....	320	538	550	630	575	835	885			
Ethiopia.....	345	343	719	653	762	900	820			
French Cameroons.....	52	121	194	179	227	291	300			
French Togoland.....	6	33	51	61	66	90	130			
French West Africa.....	250	940	1,218	1,785	1,745	2,105	2,085			
Kenya.....	297	156	215	229	238	467	460			
Madagascar.....	537	503	740	790	636	910	720			
Tanganyika.....	263	240	223	322	325	343	340			
Uganda.....	225	494	571	630	1,180	1,300	1,410			
Other Africa 4/.....	7	201	169	242	221	261	300			
Total Africa.....	2,602	4,385	5,607	6,793	6,937	8,680	8,508			
ASIA AND OCEANIA										
India.....	278	323	399	498	448	566	610			
Indonesia.....	1,961	485	1,008	1,239	744	1,190	1,500			
Yemen.....	80	99	67	80	70	70	70			
Other Asia and Oceania 5/.....	176	94	268	300	335	425	397			
Total Asia and Oceania.....	2,495	1,001	1,742	2,117	1,567	2,251	2,577			
TOTAL WORLD PRODUCTION	41,586	36,910	41,513	43,996	42,013	50,277	47,512			

1/ The coffee marketing season begins during the second half of the calendar year, starting in some countries like Brazil as early as July 1 and in other countries about October 1. The 1956-57 season as used here began July 1, 1956.

2/ Includes B.W.I., Panama Republic and Puerto Rico. 3/ Subject to further revision. Includes Bolivia, Surinam and Paraguay. 4/ Exportable production only.

5/ Includes Cape Verde, French Equatorial Africa, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Spanish Africa, Gold Coast and Nigeria.

6/ Includes French Indochina, North Borneo, Philippine Republic, Hawaii, New Caledonia, and New Hebrides.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official publications of foreign governments, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other United States representatives abroad, and other information.

AUSTRALIA'S 1956-57 WHEAT SUPPLIES 27 PERCENT UNDER 1955-56

Commercial supplies of wheat in Australia during that country's 1956-57 (December-November) marketing season are currently estimated at only 210.7 million bushels compared with 287.2 million in 1955-56, a reduction of 27 percent. Since there are at present no reasons to assume that either domestic or export demands this season will show any reductions from those of a year ago, it is quite likely that December 1, 1957 stocks will be the lowest in many years and certainly no larger than what was regarded as a normal carryover in years preceding the development of the great world wheat surpluses.

Australia's current wheat marketing season opened December 1, 1956 with a carryin of only 84.1 million bushels compared with 91.6 million a year earlier. The first official estimate placed the new crop at no more than 126.6 million bushels compared with 195.6 million in 1955-56. Assuming that domestic requirements remain unchanged at last year's level of 72.8 million bushels, supplies available for export or carryover this season amount to only 137.9 million bushels against 214.4 million last season.

Should exports this year continue at anything like the 1955-56 rate, when they totaled 130.3 million bushels grain equivalent, the December 1, 1957 carryover would be down to 7.6 million bushels. However, if Australia prefers to end the season with no less than a 20 million bushel carryover, the actual exportable supply would amount to only 117.9 million bushels.

Under Australia's current 5-year Wheat Stabilization Plan, which expires with the end of the 1957-58 season, all phases of the marketing of the country's wheat crop are the sole prerogative of the Australian Wheat Board. The Board not only exercises a complete monopoly over the purchase of wheat from farmers but also over its subsequent sale in domestic and export markets. The Board, however, delegates its authority to such approved organizations as Government Grain Elevators, State Grain Elevator Boards, licensed cooperatives and licensed wheat merchants who have been long engaged in the wheat trade. These operate as agents of the Board.

AUSTRALIA RAISES 1956-57 SUPPORT PRICE FOR WHEAT

The Australian Government is guaranteeing wheat growers this year a minimum price of 13s. 8d. (\$1.53) per bushel for new crop wheat of f.a.q. quality delivered to the Board, bulk basis, f.o.r. ports of export. This represents an increase of 7d. (6.5 cents) per bushel compared with the 1955-56 guarantee of 13s. 1d. (\$1.47) per bushel. Premiums and discounts are applicable for deliveries varying in quality from Australia's f.a.q. standard.

The first advance payable on new crop deliveries will be 10s. (\$1.12) per bushel on bulk wheat and 10s. 4d. (\$1.16) on bagged wheat, less freight. As usual, growers in Western Australia receive an additional 2d. (1.9 cents) per bushel over these rates in recognition of the lower freight rates on exports from that State to world markets.

In addition to the guaranteed minimum price, growers share in profits realized by the Wheat Board on its subsequent sales. Proceeds from sales are pooled and net profits distributed to growers on the basis of the quantity and quality of their original deliveries. The Board's net proceeds represent total income less expenses, including the cost of the additional payment to Western Australian producers on wheat exported from that State.

U. S. EXPORTS OF COTTON LINTERS UP IN DECEMBER

United States exports of cotton linters, mostly chemical qualities, amounted to 61,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in December 1956, up 79 percent from November exports of 34,000 bales and 33 percent higher than the exports of 46,000 bales in December 1955. Exports of linters in the 5-month period, August-December 1956, amounted to 161,000 bales or 3 percent more than exports of 157,000 bales in the corresponding period a year ago.

Principal destinations of linters exports during August-December 1956, with comparable 1955 figures in parentheses were: West Germany 64,000 bales (58,000); the United Kingdom 28,000 (36,000); Netherlands 26,000 (9,000); Canada 15,000 (13,000); Japan 13,000 (20,000); and France 11,000 (16,000).

U. S. IMPORTS OF COTTON LINTERS SLIGHTLY HIGHER IN DECEMBER

United States imports of cotton linters, mostly felting qualities, amounted to 13,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in December 1956, a slight increase over the 12,000 bales imported in November but 2 percent less than imports of 15,000 bales in December 1955. Imports during the 5-month period, August-December 1956, amounted to 72,000 bales or 16 percent less than imports of 86,000 bales in the same months of 1955.

Principal sources of linters imports during August-December 1956 with comparable 1955 figures in parentheses were: Mexico 55,000 bales (60,000); U.S.S.R. 13,000 (14,000); Brazil 1,500 (3,000); El Salvador 900 (1,700); Guatemala 700 (400); and Peru 600 (1,500).

U. S. COTTON IMPORTS INCREASE IN DECEMBER

United States imports of cotton (for consumption) in December 1956 amounted to 11,000 bales (500 pounds gross), increasing sharply from imports of 2,000 bales in November, although much lower than the imports of 18,000 bales in December 1955. Most of the increase was in imports from Egypt which amounted to 10,000 bales in December as compared with a total of only 2,000 in the preceding 4 months.

Imports during the 5-month period, August-December 1956, amounted to 40,000 bales or approximately 50 percent less than imports of 79,000 bales a year ago. The decline occurred principally in imports from Egypt, Peru, and Pakistan, all of which were less than half those in the earlier period.

UNITED STATES: Imports of cotton by country of origin
averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1954 and 1955,
August-December 1955 and 1956

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1						
	Average		1954	1955	August-December		
	1935-39	1945-49			1955	1956	
	1,000 bales						
Brazil.....	3	1	1	1	1/	2	
China.....	2/ 31	1/	0	0	0	0	
Egypt.....	63	103	3/ 73	60	29	12	
India.....	67	103	17	6	2	1	
Mexico.....	23	19	20	22	21	18	
Pakistan.....	4/ 5/	12	11	22	12	1	
Peru.....	1	23	22	23	12	6	
Sudan.....	6/ 2/	4	3	2	1	1/	
U.S.S.R.....	7/ 5	5/ 1	1	1	1	0	
Others.....	0	0	2	1/	1	0	
Total 8/	9/ 185	9/ 260	150	137	79	40	

1/ Less than 500 bales. 2/ 4-year average. 3/ Includes 147 bales trans-shipped via Italy. 4/ Included with India prior to partition in 1947. 5/ 3-year average. 6/ Included with Egypt prior to 1942. 7/ 2-year average. 8/ Includes small quantities which are reexported each year. 9/ Total does not add due to partial averages.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

U. S. EXPORTS OF AMERICAN-
EGYPTIAN COTTON RISING

United States exports of American-Egyptian cotton amounted to 35,776 bales (500 pounds gross) during August-December 1956, increasing sharply over exports of 3,323 bales in August-December 1955, and also well above exports of 21,555 bales in the 1955-56 season. The current figure is the highest shown since the beginning of records on this variety in 1911.

Initial shipments in the current upturn began in March 1956 with exports of 7,319 bales to Spain, which were increased to 15,002 bales for the March-July 1956 period. Other principal destinations have been the United Kingdom, Japan, Italy, and France. The increased volume is attributed to favorable price relationships with competitive foreign growths, as well as reports on laboratory tests showing the superior spinning qualities of this variety. Also supplies of extra-long staple cotton available from Egypt and the Sudan this year are considerably less than those of a year ago. All exports, whether from Commodity Credit Corporation stocks or commercial holdings, have moved at free-market prices.

UNITED STATES: Exports of American-Egyptian cotton by
country of destination, annual 1954 and 1955,
August-December 1955 and 1956

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1:		August-December	
	1954	1955	1955	1956
Austria.....	0	0	0	661
Belgium.....	0	0	0	53
France.....	103	640	0	2,358
Germany, West.....	0	169	0	0
Ireland.....	0	0	0	105
Italy.....	0	233	0	2,673
Netherlands.....	0	0	0	34
Portugal.....	0	0	0	318
Spain.....	0	15,002	0	15,539
Sweden.....	0	3	0	211
Switzerland.....	1,153	272	0	544
Trieste.....	0	0	0	369
United Kingdom.....	93	96	0	7,937
Yugoslavia.....	0	1,315	0	312
Israel.....	66	1/	0	0
India.....	0	603	311	531
Japan.....	0	21	0	4,128
Pakistan.....	0	3,156	3,012	3
Other countries.....	0	45	0	0
Total.....	1,415	21,555	3,323	35,776

1/ Less than one bale.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

U. S. IMPORTS OF PALM OIL AND PALM KERNEL OIL DROP IN 1956

Imports of palm oil into the United States in 1956 at 13,572 tons declined by over one-third from the 1955 total and were equal to only 8 percent of the average prewar imports. Over 93 percent of the total came from the Belgian Congo, the major U. S. supplier in the postwar period. Purchases from Indonesia, by far the leading source of palm oil in prewar years, dropped to only 738 tons. The decline in U.S. imports of palm oil in the postwar years is due largely to the fact that technological advances have reduced the tonnage of palm oil consumed in the steel industry.

Table 1 - UNITED STATES: Palm oil imports by country of origin,
average 1935-39, annual 1952-1956

(Short tons)

Country of origin	Average 1935-39	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Canada.....	1,403	-	2/	2	-	2
Mexico.....	-	-	-	-	-	92
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	243	-	-	-	-	38
Netherlands.....	1,212	-	218	665	-	-
United Kingdom.....	304	-	-	-	780	-
Indonesia.....	119,063	7,024	1,959	9,774	2,522	738
Malaya.....	1,302	-	-	434	840	17
Belgian Congo.....	20,111	18,425	14,003	19,579	17,426	12,685
French Africa.....	521	29	56	-	-	-
Liberia.....	-	27	23	-	-	-
Nigeria.....	16,038	-	956	2,507	552	-
Portuguese Africa.....	116	52	40	36	-	-
Others.....	428	66	591	60	-	-
Total.....	160,741	25,623	17,846	33,057	22,120	13,572
1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than .5 ton.						

Compiled from official records of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Imports of palm kernel oil also declined in 1956, though less sharply than palm oil. However, imports in recent years have approximated the prewar volume. The Belgian Congo also supplies most of the kernel oil purchased by the United States, accounting for close to 95 percent of the 20,342 tons imported in 1956.

Table 2 - UNITED STATES: Palm kernel oil imports by country of origin, average 1935-39, annual 1952-1956 1/

(Short tons)						
Country of origin	Average : :1935-39 :	1952 :	1953 :	1954 :	1955 <u>2/</u> :	1956 <u>2/</u> :
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	34:	- :	- :	464:	331:	-
Denmark.....	3,638:	- :	- :	- :	- :	19
Western Germany.....	<u>3/</u> 9,762:	1,138:	- :	1,352:	- :	-
Netherlands.....	6,213:	1,048:	6,403:	6,233:	3,839:	919
United Kingdom.....	2,627:	1,040:	14,584:	9,768:	2,705:	309
Belgian Congo.....	- :	2,298:	4,283:	5,298:	16,034:	19,095
Australia.....	- :	- :	- :	1,769:	- :	-
Others.....	13:	85:	- :	48:	- :	-
Total.....	22,287:	5,609:	25,270:	24,932:	22,909:	20,342

1/ Crude and refined oil combined as such. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ All Germany.
Compiled from official records of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

U. S. COPRA IMPORTS DOWN SLIGHTLY;
COCONUT OIL IMPORTS UP SHARPLY

Copra imports into the United States in 1956 at 333,960 short tons declined slightly from 1955 but coconut oil imports at 97,090 tons were almost one-third larger than in the year before. On an oil equivalent basis imports totaled 307,485 tons or 7 percent more than in 1955 and represented the largest quantity since the 339,591 tons, oil basis, imported in 1951. All of the copra and virtually all of the coconut oil came from the Republic of the Philippines.

Table 1 - UNITED STATES: Copra and coconut oil imports by country of origin, average 1935-39, annual 1955-56

(Short tons)						
Country of origin	Average : :1935-39 :	1955 <u>1/</u> :	1956 <u>1/</u> :	Average : :1935-39 :	1955 <u>1/</u> :	1956 <u>1/</u> :
		<u>Copra</u>			<u>Coconut oil</u>	
Canada.....	241:	- :	- :	- :	- :	-
Ceylon.....	1:	- :	- :	6:	2:	2
Indonesia.....	3,163:	- :	- :	- :	- :	-
Philippines, Republic of:	217,619:	333,023:	333,960:	171,347:	74,511:	97,071
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.....	- :	2,788:	- :	- :	- :	-
Western Pacific Islands..	7,468:	- :	- :	- :	- :	-
Others.....	1,352:	- :	- :	5:	67:	17
Total.....	229,844:	335,811:	333,960:	171,358:	74,580:	97,090

1/ Preliminary.

Compiled from official records of the Department of Commerce.

United States exports of coconut oil in 1956 were slightly larger than in 1955. About 70 percent of the 4,183 tons of crude oil went to Cuba and Ecuador. Country breakdown for refined coconut oil exports is not available.

Table 2 - UNITED STATES - Coconut oil, crude and refined, exports by country of destination, average 1935-39, annual 1954-1955 (Short tons)

Country of destination	Average 1935-39	1955	1956	Average 1935-39	1955	1956
		Crude			Refined	
Canada.....	3,080	364	303	159	111	
Cuba.....	945	1,651	1,697	667	128	
Guatemala...	64	188	84	19	77	
Honduras.....	1	-	105	-	-	
Mexico.....	358	-	-	37	2	
Costa Rica...	86	6	58	26	10	
Nicaragua...	47	76	95	1	36	
Panama.....	60	22	31	27	1	
Bolivia.....	13	11	7	-	6	
Colombia.....	7	256	515	7	19	
Ecuador.....	6	547	1,230	6	247	
Peru.....	8	16	27	8	8	
Venezuela...	-	-	-	-	289	
Iceland.....	-	-	-	83	172	
Sweden.....	364	-	-	334	-	
Others.....	182	-	10	520	226	
Total...	5,221	3,137	4,183	1,894	1,340	729

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes 21 tons whose destination is not indicated.
 3/ Includes 8 tons whose destination is not indicated. 4/ Country breakdown not available.

Compiled from official records of the Department of Commerce.

U. S. IMPORTS OF OLIVE OIL DOWN IN 1956

Olive oil imports into the United States in 1956 declined 16 percent from the year before. Purchases of edible and inedible oil at 22,921 short tons were the smallest since 1951 and were less than one-half the 1935-39 average.

Imports of edible olive oil from Spain, the major supplier, however, increased to 15,637 tons, the largest quantity purchased from that country since 1950. Imports from Italy, the second largest U. S. supplier, declined 2,000 tons from the year before and were the smallest in 7 years. The United States imported 779 tons of edible olive oil from Argentina, the first sizable quantity ever purchased from that country. As usual, the bulk of the inedible oil imports were from Portugal.

OLIVE OIL, EDIBLE AND INEDIBLE: Imports into the United States
by country of origin, average 1935-39, annual 1952-1956

(Short tons)

Country of origin	Average 1935-39	1952	1953	1954	1955 1/	1956 1/
	<u>Edible oil</u>					
Algeria.....	126 :	1 :	241 :	1,585 :	1,972 :	44
Argentina.....	2/ :	- :	- :	- :	- :	779
France.....	2,432 :	1,508 :	503 :	948 :	211 :	172
Morocco.....	3 :	9 :	141 :	- :	1,730 :	22
Greece.....	2,452 :	16 :	1,534 :	825 :	607 :	43
Italy.....	15,766 :	7,083 :	6,645 :	8,150 :	7,363 :	5,305
Portugal.....	183 :	53 :	44 :	62 :	52 :	9
Spain.....	8,787 :	12,953 :	12,166 :	15,214 :	10,458 :	15,637
Syria and Lebanon.....	18 :	- :	- :	- :	- :	-
Tunisia.....	1,600 :	999 :	1,151 :	3,845 :	3,771 :	164
Turkey.....	- :	77 :	15 :	- :	- :	-
Others.....	38 :	94 :	20 :	55 :	51 :	177
Total.....	31,405 :	22,793 :	22,460 :	30,684 :	26,215 :	22,352
	<u>Inedible oil</u>					
Algeria.....	3,996 :	- :	- :	1 :	80 :	-
Argentina.....	- :	- :	- :	- :	- :	9
France.....	51 :	42 :	3 :	20 :	- :	-
Morocco.....	37 :	- :	- :	- :	- :	-
Greece.....	5,505 :	- :	- :	16 :	- :	6
Italy.....	1,868 :	- :	- :	- :	- :	-
Portugal.....	1,930 :	1,101 :	771 :	1,763 :	1,022 :	496
Spain.....	2,144 :	74 :	22 :	62 :	54 :	56
Syria and Lebanon.....	134 :	- :	- :	- :	22 :	-
Tunisia.....	1,975 :	4 :	9 :	70 :	14 :	2
Turkey.....	37 :	- :	- :	- :	- :	-
Others.....	47 :	- :	- :	- :	- :	-
Total.....	17,724 :	1,221 :	805 :	1,932 :	1,192 :	569
Total edible and inedible.....	49,129 :	24,014 :	23,265 :	32,616 :	27,407 :	22,921

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than .5 ton.

U. S. IMPORTS OF CASTOR BEANS AND
CASTOR OIL CONTINUE TO DECLINE

Castor bean imports into the United States in 1956 of 21,206 short tons were less than one-half the quantity imported in 1955, thus continuing the yearly decline which has occurred since 1949 and the downward trend which has prevailed since the record 197,255 tons imported in 1941. Three-fourths of the total beans imported came from Brazil and most of the remainder from Haiti and Ecuador. India has prohibited the export of castor beans during the last 4 years.

Table 1 - UNITED STATES: Castor bean imports, averages 1935-39
and 1945-49, annual 1952-56

(Short tons)

Country of origin	Average		1952	1953	1954	1955 1/	1956 1/
	1935-39	1945-49					
North America:							
El Salvador.....	-	130	168	271	-	-	138
Haiti.....	133	2,729	4,501	3,745	2,614	1,945	2,711
Other.....	11	29	122	126	95	-	23
Total.....	144	2,888	4,791	4,142	2,709	1,945	2,872
South America:							
Argentina.....	269	221	-	391	-	-	112
Brazil.....	61,456	134,752	39,236	25,041	42,009	36,661	16,041
Colombia.....	-	-	-	28	-	-	-
Ecuador.....	6	1,413	6,279	8,296	9,611	5,161	1,960
Paraguay.....	-	102	112	-	-	-	-
Total.....	61,731	136,488	45,627	33,756	51,620	41,822	18,113
Europe.....	-	1	168	486	-	-	-
Asia:							
China.....	112	-	-	-	-	-	-
India.....	1,960	-	5,117	-	-	-	-
Iran.....	-	-	2,149	1,730	-	-	221
Other.....	2,488	523	5,569	4,408	221	-	-
Total.....	4,560	523	12,835	6,138	221	-	221
Africa:							
Angola.....	-	-	1,538	2,374	-	-	-
British East Africa.....	-	49	1,617	4,382	52	-	-
Ethiopia.....	-	-	3,281	1,054	-	-	-
Union of South Africa....	-	-	442	2,807	-	-	-
Other.....	27	44	192	2,094	-	-	-
Total.....	27	93	7,070	12,711	52	-	-
Grand total.....	66,462	139,993	70,491	57,233	54,602	43,767	21,206

1/ Preliminary.

Compiled from official records of the Department of Commerce.

Castor oil imports at 44,392 tons declined 6 percent from 1955. Imports from India increased to a record high of 25,064 tons while purchases from Brazil declined from 1955 by almost one-third. Imports from India and Brazil accounted for 88 percent of total castor oil imports in 1956.

Imports of beans and oil in terms of oil equivalent totaled 53,935 tons or one-fifth less than in 1955 and 40 percent less than the record total of 89,324 tons, oil basis, imported in 1953. The United States is the world's leading importer of castor beans and castor oil.

Table 2 - UNITED STATES: Castor oil imports, averages
1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1952-56

(Short tons)

Country of origin	Average		1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	1935-39	1945-49					
North America.....	-	258	104	36	32	-	-
South America:							
Argentina.....	-	154	456	348	371	220	1,430
Brazil.....	-	2,171	23,595	26,425	13,668	20,225	13,884
Paraguay.....	-	12	378	1,229	399	165	259
Peru.....	-	-	167	22	84	-	-
Uruguay.....	-	31	-	266	-	-	-
Total.....	-	2,368	24,596	28,290	14,522	20,610	15,573
Europe:							
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	2	-	8,966	6,359	-	436	-
France.....	-	-	2	276	253	-	-
Western Germany.....	2	-	1,006	3,653	3,053	1,570	1,363
Italy.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands.....	59	-	640	354	483	223	-
United Kingdom.....	9	-	313	-	-	-	571
Total.....	71	-	10,925	10,642	3,789	2,229	1,934
Asia:							
India.....	-	-	20,200	23,305	9,244	22,828	25,064
Thailand.....	-	84	-	-	-	-	-
Other.....	42	65	-	376	320	-	-
Total.....	42	149	20,200	23,681	9,564	22,828	25,064
Africa:							
Angola.....	-	-	78	808	508	1,971	1,821
Other.....	-	-	-	112	-	-	-
Total.....	-	-	78	920	508	1,971	1,821
Grand total.....	113	2,775	55,903	63,569	28,415	47,638	44,392

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than .5 ton.

Compiled from official records of the Department of Commerce.

U.S. EXPORTS OF EDIBLE OILS
MAINTAIN RECORD RATE IN JANUARY

Exports of soybean oil from the United States in January of 91.4 million pounds were nearly as large as the all-time monthly record set in December. With cottonseed oil exports in January close to the level of a year ago, combined exports of the 2 oils during the first 4 months of the current marketing year of nearly 500 million pounds were one-half again as large as in October-January 1955-56 and were equal to over 40 percent of total exports during the entire 1955-56 marketing year. Heavy shipments under Public Law 480, principally to Spain, got under way earlier this marketing year than last.

COTTONSEED OIL, SOYBEAN OIL, OILCAKES AND MEALS: Preliminary estimates of United States exports in January 1957 and October-January 1956-57, and actual exports, January 1956 and October-January 1955-56

Commodity	January		October-January	
	1956	1957 (Preliminary)	1955-56	1956-57 (Preliminary)
- Million pounds -				
Cottonseed oil, refined.....	12.2	4.5	53.8	33.9
Cottonseed oil, refined and further processed.....	8.8	5.4	20.8	9.0
Cottonseed oil, crude.....	35.3	39.6	110.5	136.8
Total cottonseed oil.....	56.3	49.5	185.1	179.7
Soybean oil, refined.....	15.6	8.7	25.9	22.5
Soybean oil, refined and further processed.....	30.7	39.1	113.4	169.4
Soybean oil, crude.....	1.1	43.6	6.0	120.2
Total soybean oil.....	47.4	91.4	145.3	312.1
Total soybean and cottonseed oil.....	103.7	140.9	330.4	491.8
- Thousand short tons -				
Cottonseed cake and meal.....	15.3	2.5	129.0	24.6
Linseed cake and meal.....	17.1	6.7	81.8	30.5
Soybean cake and meal.....	35.6	50.1	177.2	222.4
Total cake and meal.....	68.0	59.3	388.0	277.5

Exports of soybeans in January are estimated, on the basis of inspection returns, at 9 million bushels, up 2 million from last year. The 4-months total of about 45 million bushels compares with 41.5 million bushels in October-January 1955-56.

Exports of soybean cake and meal in January were still running considerably above those of last year, but this increase was not large enough to offset the decline in shipments of cottonseed and linseed cakes. Combined exports of cake and meal in October-January were down nearly 30 percent from last year.

EGYPT'S COTTON PRODUCTION ESTIMATE REVISED DOWNWARD

Egypt's third official estimate of the 1956-57 cotton crop places production at 1,464,000 bales (500 pounds gross), down 1 percent from the second estimate of 1,483,000 bales and 5 percent below the final estimate of 1,535,000 bales for the 1955-56 crop.

Production of cotton stapling over 1-3/8 inches, mostly Karnak and Menoufi, is down 5 percent from the second estimate but 7 percent higher than the final estimate for 1955-56. Production of other varieties is below that of the previous year.

EGYPT: Cotton production by staple length and variety,
official estimates 1955-56 and 1956-57.

Staple length and principal varieties	1955-56 Final est.	1956-57 Third est. ^{1/}	Percent of change
	- - - - 1,000 bales ^{2/} - - - -		
Extra long staple, over 1-3/8":			
Karnak and Menoufi.....	550	587	+ 7%
Medium long staple, over 1-1/4":			
Giza 30.....	289	256	- 12%
Long staple, over 1-1/8":			
Ashmouni.....	658	590	- 10%
Subtotal.....	1,497	1,433	- 4%
Scarto.....	38	31	- 18%
- Total.....	1,535	1,464	- 5%

^{1/} The final official estimate will be issued about April 15, 1957.

^{2/} Bales of 500 pounds gross.

Source: Government of Egypt.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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